- 1 but may need to offer as rebuttal because the Bureau is
- taking four witnesses for oral testimony, not written
- 3 direct.
- I don't anticipate any surprises from any of those
- four, but my anticipation has been confounded in other
- 6 matters before.
- 7 That's something I would take up with you at that
- 8 time. But there is the other side of the equation that I
- 9 ought to take up now. That MMBI may withdraw some of its
- 10 exhibits --
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Fine.
- MR. RILEY: -- as the Bureau case unfolds.
- JUDGE STEINBERG: That's fine.
- MR. RILEY: But because they aren't -- because we
- are doing an admissions session before the witness really
- 16 would have delivered oral direct testimony, I would like
- 17 MMBI exhibits not to be usable by the Bureau in their cross-
- 18 examination of witnesses.
- 19 JUDGE STEINBERG: That's not workable.
- MR. RILEY: Okay.
- JUDGE STEINBERG: I don't think that's workable.
- 22 If there is something that's in the record a couple of time,
- then if it's an MMBI exhibit and a Bureau or Turro exhibit,
- then you use the Bureau or the Turro exhibit, or we can
- 25 refer to it.

- 1 MR. RILEY: My main reference would be to Mr.
- Weis's direct written testimony, our Exhibit 1. You see Mr.
- Weis would never been called by MMBI as a witness if at the
- 4 end of the Bureau and Universal case I concluded they had
- 5 not met their burden of proof, and so Mr. Weis would never
- take the stand, and I elicit through oral direct questioning
- 7 what constitutes MMBI Exhibit 1.
- And it isn't that they can't question him about
- 9 the same subjects. The subjects in there are not a
- 10 surprise. They are commonplace. It is the handing of him
- the exhibit while he's the Bureau's witness on adverse
- 12 questioning that I raise now.
- 13 JUDGE STEINBERG: I don't think that's doable.
- Because I am thinking I have questions for Mr. Weis too
- directly related to Exhibit 1, and, you know, it's the types
- of things if you look at Exhibit 1, read this, and here is
- 17 the question. And so --
- MR. RILEY: Okay, I understand the ruling.
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Yes, if you can think of a
- 20 practical -- I mean, I'm open to suggestions if you can
- 21 think of a practical way to do it.
- MR. RILEY: Well, it is though, I think, the case,
- 23 it's practically easy to reduce what would have been
- 24 elicited through oral direct examination to written
- statements that speeds things up, and it avoids the

- difficulty that counsel faces in trying to frame nonleading
- 2 questions.
- But to create then a platform for examination that
- 4 really precedes when the time would have come in the
- 5 progression of an oral case, I think, leads to more
- 6 litigation, reduces the practicality, and leaves us in a
- 7 situation where Mr. Weis will be cross-examined twice on
- 8 Exhibit 1; once by its use during his calling by the Bureau.
- 9 Then if Mr. Weis is -- if in fact then Exhibit 1 becomes a
- 10 part of the record, I don't withdraw it. I mean, Mr. Weis
- is now on the stand as my witness and I say Exhibit 1 is in.
- Now he's open for cross, and then it's used again.
- 13 But I understand your ruling.
- Let me go to one other thing. The Bureau has
- said, and we looked at the law on this and I think they are
- 16 right, that they are entitled -- I think they are right,
- 17 although I would debate it, and it's not worth debating --
- 18 that they are entitled to question Weis, Turro, Blabey, and
- 19 Montana as adverse witnesses. Years ago they would not have
- 20 been able to question Montana as an adverse witness, but our
- view of the law, as we researched it recently, is that today
- they probably could. And so we don't resist that.
- But there is no showing that they are hostile
- 24 witnesses and there is a difference between an adverse and
- an hostile witness. And so while as adverse witnesses they

- could do as Mr. Aronowitz suggests and proceed to take them
- on oral direct with leading questions, there is a difference
- 3 between that and belligerent or badgering. And I hope when
- 4 these witnesses come in the room, unless Mr. Aronowitz can
- show that they are hostile witnesses, that his questioning
- 6 won't go beyond leading questions.
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Let me just say that I would
- 8 expect everybody to be civil. There is a -- although
- 9 recognizing there is a time when it's appropriate not to be
- 10 civil, I expect that -- I expect when Luna and Gaghan are up
- on the stand, and when Owen, Lynch and Garland are up on the
- 12 stand that it might not be 100 percent civil. Given the
- nature of what they are going to testify about, that's
- 14 entirely appropriate.
- I don't like anybody asking, at least not on --
- unless it's cross-examination, I don't like anybody asking
- 17 leading questions. I prefer the answers to be elicited by
- the witnesses, but I understand the position that you are
- 19 in.
- I would just say if it's possible to avoid leading
- 21 the witness, try to do it because it's much more meaningful
- 22 to me and it makes for a better record if the words come out
- 23 of the witness's mouth and not counsel's mouth. And I give
- 24 more weight to what the witnesses say than to what counsel
- 25 says. But then again I understand that you may -- it might

- 1 be appropriate to do it otherwise when you are doing certain
- 2 areas.
- I don't mind leading questions if it's like
- 4 background and, you know, just routine stuff that you need
- 5 to get through to get to the real questions. But when you
- 6 get to the real nitty-gritty and the heart of the matter, I
- 7 would prefer not leading.
- 8 However, you can lead hostile witnesses and
- 9 adverse witnesses, too, I guess.
- 10 MR. RILEY: Yes, adverse. The Federal Rules now
- 11 seem to treat -- I mean, hostility is one thing. You show
- that to the judge, and then he lets you proceed to really
- 13 hammer the witness.
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Yes.
- MR. RILEY: But adverse now seems to be a really
- 16 relaxed standard, simply an employee of someone --
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Right.
- 18 MR. RILEY: -- even though clearly not hostile to
- 19 the question can be treated adverse, and I understand that.
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Well, I will be very, very
- 21 disappointed if certain witnesses weren't hammered. But
- it's always nicer to start off nice.
- 23 MR. ARONOWITZ: Your Honor, I would think that --
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Not that you're --
- MR. ARONOWITZ: -- if any counsel got out of hand,

- we are all here, you are all here, I just don't see it
- 2 happen.
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Oh it's happened.
- 4 MR. ARONOWITZ: Well, unless it's merited, I don't
- 5 see it happening. I would pledge that, you know, to obvious
- be, you know, as civil as the circumstances allow.
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Okay.
- 8 MR. ARONOWITZ: What else can I say?
- 9 MR. RILEY: No, I'm not -- I didn't mean to
- suggest by my comments that I thought you would not be. I
- just wanted to point out that while your letter of notice
- said you would take them as adverse witnesses, I think under
- the rules there is a distinction between the right to treat
- 14 somebody as an adverse and the right to have it presumed in
- advance that they are going to be a hostile witness.
- MR. ARONOWITZ: Absolutely, and we said in advance
- 17 adverse, not hostile.
- 18 MR. RILEY: I know.
- MR. ARONOWITZ: Adverse.
- MR. RILEY: Quite so.
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Okay, anything further?
- Then we will be in recess until a week from today
- 23 at, I think, 10:00, and thank you very much. It was long,
- 24 but it was fruitful, I think.
- Okay, let's go off the record.

- 1 MR. HELMICK: Your Honor, are you going to rule on
- the timing of setting up the other witnesses for Mr. Turro
- at the end of next -- at the end of the first week of the
- 4 hearing?
- 5 JUDGE STEINBERG: Yes, I think if you all can work
- out a schedule for all the other witnesses, and then give it
- 7 to me, that would be great. If you can't, then we will talk
- 8 about it just the way we did this morning. You know, we
- 9 would do that next Thursday, let's say.
- 10 MR. ARONOWITZ: As I understand it, Your Honor, we
- 11 are going to make a very sincere effort tomorrow after --
- with any kind of luck if we're done with Mr. Loginow at an
- early hour, we're going to sit down. Time is very short,
- and we are all -- well, most of us are hoping that we can
- get some stipulations together to cut down on the volume of
- traffic that will be coming through here in the next two
- weeks. We certainly would like to wrap this up if we can.
- 18 If we can, we are going to make a sincere effort to do that
- 19 tomorrow.
- JUDGE STEINBERG: Okav.
- 21 MR. ARONOWITZ: I think I speak for everybody when
- 22 I say that. So hopefully we can come together. One of the
- 23 biggest problems, and I mean, we have said this amongst
- 24 ourselves, is the timing. I mean, you know, the deposition
- tomorrow, Thanksgiving, and then a hearing.

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JUDGE STEINBERG: Okay.
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 2
                MR. ARONOWITZ: So the time is short, and it will
      require an extra effort. If we can do it, we will do it.
 3
                 JUDGE STEINBERG: Okay. Let's go off the record
 5
            Thank you.
      now.
 6
                 (Whereupon, at 4:15 p.m., the hearing was
 7
      recessed, to reconvene at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 3,
 8
      1997.)
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## REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

FCC DOCKET NO.: MM Docket No. 97-122

CASE TITLE:

Gerard A. Turro

**HEARING DATE:** 

November 24, 1997

LOCATION:

Washington, D.C.

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately on the tapes and notes reported by me at the hearing in the above case before the Federal Communications Commission.

Date:

November 24, 1997

Official Reporter

Heritage Reporting Corporation

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